

NEW BOOKS.

A New Study of Jane Austen.

The three great female novelists of England are once more made the subjects of thoughtful and sympathetic appreciation in a volume of some five hundred pages entitled "Charlotte Brontë, George Eliot and Jane Austen," by Henry H. Bonnell (Longmans). The keynote of the essays is struck in their respective sub-titles: thus the estimate of Charlotte Brontë is described as "A Study of Passion;" that of George Eliot as "The Literature of Power and the Cup of Strength," and that of Jane Austen as "The Exquisite Touch." As regards the two former essays, we must commend the reader to the book itself, merely remarking that they deserve careful perusal on the score both of substance and of form. Papers on Jane Austen are much less numerous, and for that reason we shall only glance today at some of Mr. Bonnell's observations on the author of "Pride and Prejudice." The sub-title of the essay prepares us, as we have said, for the critic's point of view, who, indeed, is justified by the novelist herself in describing her as a miniature painter. In a letter to a nephew, from which Mr. Bonnell quotes, she contrasts his "strong, manly, vigorous sketches, full of variety and glow" with her own performance on the "little bit, two inches wide, of ivory, on which I work with so fine a brush as produces little effect after much labor." Keeping in view Miss Austen's intention, which was to paint not on a large canvas, but in miniature, we must recognize with the author of the book before us that it is the business of a discriminating criticism to distinguish between positive faults and those omissions which are incidental to a given method of treatment, nay inseparable from it. We have no right to expect large treatment and discursive delineation from a hand the forte of which is to make the utmost of "two inches wide of ivory." Mr. Bonnell proceeds to point out some of the omissions which were unavoidable if the novelist was to adhere to her primary purpose, and, by way of introduction, he suggests that much of the failure properly to measure Miss Austen's work has been due to a misapprehension of the conditions of miniature painting. The conception of a miniature calls, not only for a reduced scale, but also for exceptional fineness of execution. It is pointed out that one effect of a rigorous subjecting to a limitation of space is this, that the self-restraint necessarily required is likely to stifle enthusiasm; on the other hand, as enthusiasm is apt to destroy perspective, the restraint has a tendency to heighten the value of the art. The contracted scale of miniature painting, therefore, involves not only disadvantages, but countervailing advantages.

Let us note more in detail some of the consequences which, as Mr. Bonnell shows, would naturally flow from Miss Austen's deliberate adoption of miniature painting. Having before him the definite object of a portrait, the miniature painter, by reason of his reduced scale, is obliged to concentrate his mind on the essential features of his subject. There is no margin for padding; no superfluous dramatic personæ are admissible. Character must be disclosed and accentuated with as little outside help as possible. In no other style of work is so rich an expression and delicacy of detail so indispensable as in miniature painting; nor is there any other in which the least failure is so noticeable. "There are," Mr. Bonnell reminds us, "many world-famous pictures of the heroic size which have for centuries ranked among the wonders of the world, but which, in certain small particulars, may be subjected to unfavorable criticism; the grandeur of the general execution smothering the faults in the largeness of the canvas. But, in the 'exquisite touch' there is no escape in size, and a minor instantly becomes a major fault. Miss Austen almost never erred in this essential." Touching the absence of superfluities, our author admits that one might say of the first glance that there is a sister or two to many in some of the novels, but he thinks that further consideration will exhibit a reason for each. Miss Austen was thoroughly alive to the narrowness of the boundaries within which she could work successfully. To the suggestion that she should attempt the delineation of a countryman of high culture, she replied that it was beyond her power: "A classical education, or at any rate, a very extensive acquaintance with English literature, ancient and modern, appears to me quite indispensable for the person who would do any justice to your countryman, and I think I may safely boast myself to be, with all possible vanity, the most unlearned and untrained female who ever dared to be an authoress." From a power of self-restraint revealing so clear a perception of boundaries, it might be predicted that when the boundaries of the work would be artificially extended, as in the case of events, expect to find chastened expression, an eschewal of exaggeration and a lively sense of proportion. No reader of Miss Austen's is likely to dispute Mr. Toynbee's dictum that she is "The pre-eminent mistress of taste. If order is heaven's first law, this lady must rank among the hierarchs of art. It is no other author to be found a more perfect of congruous beauty, and a keener discernment of symmetry."

It goes without saying that we should not look to miniature for landscape painting. As our author says, there were no artistic portrayals of scenery in Miss Austen's day. Miss Burney, for instance, never introduced landscapes. But even if Miss Austen had been qualified to rise above her age in this respect, her theory of art would have forbidden her to interrupt her tale with descriptions of scenery. Owing, also, to the contraction of her scale, she had no space for mooring and solving social or critical problems, as George Eliot was disposed to do. It is manifest, likewise, that comedy alone is a fit theme for the miniature; he has not scope enough for tragedy. That this was plain to Miss Austen is evident from the fact that there is not a death in all her fiction. There is no room for a broad exhibition of the various classes in society, such as Fielding gives us; the author of "Sense and Sensibility" never draws a servant. She knows that it is unnecessary to go out of one's own class in search of vulgarities.

In spite of the smallness of her scale and of its effect upon her aim and methods, her novels cannot fairly be stigmatized as provincial. As Mr. Bonnell points out, it is not the narrowness of the scene which produces provincialism in literature, but the spirit by which the painter of the scene is controlled. Nobody, for instance, would call "Middlemarch" a provincial novel, and yet when we recall how sequestered was the sphere she lived in, we can scarcely describe her as a woman of the world, though she, like Thackeray, may be taxed

PUBLICATIONS.

Xmas Specials

Balham Bond Writing Paper. 120 sheets and 100 envelopes in white and blue. THE LARGEST HOLIDAY BOX OF SIMILAR QUALITY EVER OFFERED, at the greatly cut price of..... 98c

Brixton Vellum, 5 quires of fine hand paper with envelopes, for the unparalleled price of..... 72c

Also a full line of XMAS PAPETRIES, sizes, finishes, weights, tints and quality, in handsome boxes, particularly appropriate for gifts.

ORIGINAL DRAWINGS for XMAS GIFTS

We have the fullest exhibit of original drawings ever offered for sale. A range of choice, which extends from a whimsical bit by Peter Newell at a small price, to the complete original of the Newell illustrations from "Alice in Wonderland" for \$2,000.00. The public is cordially invited to this FREE EXHIBITION of drawings by Christy, Clark, Fisher, Gibson, Hutt, Keller, Loeb, Newell, Peirce, Pyle, Wrenn, Yohn, and others, and cartoons by Bush, Davenport, Oppet, and Powers.

TO THE "PUT-IT-OFFS" who have postponed their holiday purchases until the eleventh hour, we offer a tremendous stock and latitude of choice. We are unique in the history of DOWNTOWN book and stationery enterprise.

ROHDE & HASKINS, Booksellers and Stationers,
16 Cortlandt St. (Telephone Building.) Open Evenings.

PUBLICATIONS.

PUBLICATIONS.

Xmas Specials

Books in fine bindings, Standard Sets, Gift Books, Latest Publications, Juvenile Books, Bibles, Prayer-Books and Hymnals, Fancy Calendars and Xmas Cards, Diaries, Paper-Weights, Games, Carved Leather Goods, Writing Sets in bronze, gilt, etc.

We have just added a beautiful line of

VIENNA BRONZE
which is on view in our windows.



From Gibson's "Americans." Copyright R. H. Russell.

THE JANUARY SCRIBNER

ENGLISH COURT and SOCIETY in the EIGHTIES.

Letters of the French Ambassador, Mary King Waddington. They form a perfect picture, seen through the eyes of a brilliant woman, of the English court and society, full of incidents and descriptions of notable political and social figures, including besides Queen Victoria, the present King and Queen, Gladstone, Salisbury, Rosebery, Earl of Derby, Jussarand, Duchess of Cambridge and many other celebrated men and women. The illustrations are reproduced from drawings and from Madame Waddington's private collection of photographs.

THE OLD ROUTE TO ORLEANS.

A most interesting description, by Willis Gibson, of the Mississippi from the head of navigation down to its mouth. It is illustrated with many beautiful full-page pictures by Jules Guerin, the result of a special trip made by the artist during the past year.

JOHN FOX'S NEW SERIAL STORY.

"The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come" begins in this number. The story the scenes of which are laid in Kentucky, contains some of the best writing that Mr. Fox has done, and it grips the interest from the first page. Illustrated by E. C. Yohn.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS and THE BLIND.

A description, by M. S. Gerry, of a Government philanthropy that will interest every American—the pavilion in the Congressional Library for the use of the blind, containing books and games prepared for them. The article is illustrated by Vernon Howe Bailey.

GIUSEPPE'S CHRISTMAS.

A happy story of the Christmas day of an Italian boy, by Mary C. Peixotto, illustrated in color by Ernest C. Peixotto.

THE BEST GUN IN THE VALLEY.

A humorous story by Nelson Lloyd, illustrated in a most happy manner by A. B. Frost.

A CLASH OF SENTIMENTALISTS.

A story by Alice Duer Miller.

THE STORY OF A GREAT-GRANDFATHER.

A tale of the Revolution by George Hibbard, illustrated by Howard Pyle.

A DEATH IN THE DESERT.

A story by Willa Sibert Cather.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

Two full-page Christmas pictures by Henry Hutt.

FOR SALE EVERYWHERE Price 25 cents

Yet abandoned it. I know there are parts of England where "touching the hat" would now be regarded as a trait of servility. In the name of the sweet charities of life, why? I imagine every well-mannered member of the House of Commons takes his hat off to the Speaker when he meets him, and calls him "Sir." It is painful to not once a fellow creature in a country line, or, for that matter, on a high road, and pass and be passed by him as though neither had any existence for the other. If proudly ignoring each other be a proof of independence, I prefer a little servility."

The journeying housewife has many pleasant and useful things. They are all commented, as pleasantly and refreshingly

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Continued on Tenth Page.

PUBLICATIONS.

PUBLICATIONS.

Books are the Best of Holiday Gifts

John Fiske's New History

NEW FRANCE AND NEW ENGLAND
"There will be no more important work published this year."—N. Y. Mail and Express.
"A fascinating mingling of chronicle and criticism."
With maps, \$1.05 net, postpaid \$1.81.
—Brooklyn Eagle.

George E. Woodberry's New Biography

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE
The final word on America's greatest writer of fiction.
With portrait, \$1.10 net, postpaid \$1.20.

Thomas Wentworth Higginson's

LONGFELLOW
"A graceful, dignified and adequate biography."
With portrait, \$1.10 net, postpaid \$1.20.
—Chicago Post.

New Handy Volume Edition of

HOLMES'S BREAKFAST-TABLE SERIES
Either separately or as a set these volumes make a desirable and inexpensive present.
4 vols., each \$1.00. The set, \$4.00.

Riverside Edition of

BRET HARTE'S WORKS
"No library can be fully equipped without the works of Bret Harte, and these volumes are made to delight the eyes of book lovers."—San Francisco Argonaut.
With portraits. 10 vols., \$24.00. (Sold only in sets).

Cambridge Edition of

LOCKHART'S SCOTT
"No gentleman's library should be without it. In its present form it is even more worthy than ever to stand beside its great rival, Boswell's Johnson."
5 vols., \$10.00.
—New York Sun.

J. N. Larned's

A PRIMER OF RIGHT AND WRONG
"A household benediction, to simplify the elements of ethics for younger readers."
70 cents net. Postpaid, 77 cents.
—The Watchman, Boston.

Edited by Stanislaus M. Hamilton

LETTERS TO WASHINGTON
Published for the Colonial Dames of America.
The letters cover a period from 1752 to 1775 and are from men of different historical importance, but all are of positive value to students of history.
Large Crown 8vo, each \$5.00 net. The set, \$25.00 net.
(Volume V. is just published.)

For Sale at All Bookstores.
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & CO.,
BOSTON AND NEW YORK

"The Problem of the Trusts"

BY
JOSEPH S. AUERBACH

AND
Prof. HENRY C. ADAMS

The Two Most Important Articles
Yet Published

IN
The North American Review
FOR DECEMBER

JUST IN TIME
to order Christmas Books

Three Good Novels:

\$1.50 Marriott's "Love with Honour."
\$1.20 net. Stephenson's "Beautiful Mrs. Moulton."
\$1.50 Bago's "Just and Unjust."

Three Books of Essays:

\$1.20 net. Lowell's "Early Prose Writings."
\$1.50 net. Paul's "Men and Letters."
\$1.25 net. Holmes's "Walt Whitman."

Three Child Books:

\$2.50 net. Grahame and Parrish's "Dream Days."
\$1.50 net. Maud's "Heroines of Poetry."
\$1.25 net. Harker's "Romance of the Nursery."

JOHN LANE THE BODLEY HEAD 67 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK

C A R A M B A
The New Nonsense Book

There is really nothing like it for a gift to young or old. Many nonsense-loving families already have the bubbling Caramba, the golfing Papi d'Annunzio, and the Skokinsky, the circumlocution Yutu. In the same household shrine with Alice and the Old Man with a Beard, and all others should get them. Children will wonder at the capricious story, and learn the latest wiles in spelling reform; parents and adults will be diverted by the subtle sarcasm of the fresh wit, and all the blind will rejoice alight over the unruly cleverness of the many full-page pictures and colophon.

Large Quarto, decorative boards, \$1.00
THE GARDEN OF THE HEART
A Garland of Verses, by Edith M. Thomas, Harriet Prescott Sp. Ford, Ethelyn Wetherald, Virginia Woodward Cloud, Roy Farrell Greene, Clifford Lanier and others. Beautifully printed in red and black on antique paper. Limp wrappers. A dainty Xmas remembrance. 10 cents postpaid. \$1.00 a dozen.

RICHARD G. BADGER, The Gorham Press, BOSTON

PUBLICATIONS.

HARPERS CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

NOVELS.

THE MAID-AT-ARMS. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Robert W. Chambers.
Love and Adventure in Colonial Days.

THE INTRUSIONS OF PEGGY. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Anthony Hope.
A Novel of To-day in London.

THE ADVENTURES OF M. D'HARICOT. Illustrated. \$1.50.
J. Storer Clouston.
"The Funniest book ever written."

ISTAR OF BABYLON. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Margaret Horton Potter.
The Love Story of a Goddess—the Pagan "Ben Hur."

THE WOODING OF WISTARIA. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Onoto Watanna.
A Love Story of Japan.

THE VULTURES. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Henry Seton Merriman.
A Novel of Russian Intrigue.

WINSLOW PLAIN. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Sarah P. McLean Greene.
A Novel of Life in New England.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE GRAY HORSE TROOP. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Hamlin Garland.
A Story of Modern Heroism.

ABNER DANIEL. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Will N. Harben.
"The 'David Harum' of the South."

THE RED HOUSE. Illustrated. \$1.50.
E. Nesbit.
The Story of a Honeymoon.

IN THE MORNING GLOW. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Roy Wolfe Gilman.
Studies That Appeared in Harper's Magazine—"Mother," "Grandfather," etc.

THE RIGHT OF WAY. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Gilbert Parker.
One of the Few Permanent Novels in Modern Fiction.

THE REFLECTIONS OF AMBROSINE. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Elmer Glyn.
A New Novel by the Author of the "Visita of Elizabeth."

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

THE FLIGHT OF PONY BAKER. Illustrated. \$1.25 net.
W. D. Howells.
Another delightful story by Mr. Howells of a "real boy."

OUTDOORLAND. Illustrated. \$1.50 net.
Robert W. Chambers.
Outdoor stories for children.

THE LOVABLE TALES OF JANEY AND JOSEY AND JOE. Illustrated. \$1.50 net.
Gertrude Smith.
Stories for the "littles" ones by the author of the "Roggie and Reggie Stories."

THE ROGIE AND REGGIE STORIES. Illustrated. \$1.50.
Gertrude Smith.
One of the most attractive children's books for the holidays.

HISTORY, Etc.

A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

President of Princeton University.

The only complete narrative history of the United States in existence. Five volumes, amply illustrated with rare portraits, prints, maps in colors, etc., \$4.00 net.

THE REIGN OF QUEEN ANNE. \$4.00 net.
Justin McCarthy, M. P.
The final contribution to Mr. McCarthy's popular histories of England, two vols. (in a box).

LITERATURE AND LIFE. Illustrated. \$2.25 net.
W. D. Howells.

A new volume of essays.

A DOFFED CORONET. Illustrated. \$2.25 net.
A new volume of reminiscences, by the author of "The Merry Men of the Empire."

AN ON-LOOKER'S NOTE-BOOK. \$2.25 net.
George W. R. Russell.

New volume of comment upon social and political conditions in England to-day, by the author of "Collections and Recollections."

ON AN IRISH JAUNTING CAR. Illustrated. \$1.25 net.
Samuel G. Bayne.

One of the most entertaining travel books yet published.

GIFT BOOKS.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS. \$3.00 net.
Lewis Carroll.

The Peter Newell Edition of this great classic, volume binding, decorative borders, full page paintings, etc., in a box. \$3.00.

THE DESERTED VILLAGE. \$3.00 net.
Oliver Goldsmith.

The Abbey Edition—Paintings by Edwin A. Abbey, R. A., silk cloth binding, in a box.

AN OLD COUNTRY HOUSE. \$2.40 net.
Richard Le Gallienne.

One of the most artistic gifts of the year. Decorated slides.

SONGS OF TWO CENTURIES. \$1.50 net.
A new volume of verse, just published, by one of our most popular poets.

HARPER & BROTHERS,
Franklin Square, New York.

Christmas Books

The Kind That Are Re-read.

The Two Vannevels (82nd 1,000) \$1.50

By Booth Tarkington.

Emmy Lou (22nd 1,000) \$1.50

By George Madden Martin.

The Blazed Trail (10th edition) \$1.50

By Stewart Edward White.

Gabriel Toller (4th Edition) \$1.50

By Joel Chandler Harris.

Thoroughbreds (2nd Edition) \$1.50

By W. A. Fraser.

Little Stories of Married Life. \$1.25

By Mary Stewart Cutting.

McClure, Phillips & Co.

THE SOCIAL LADDER

BY CHARLES DANA GIBSON

The New Gibson Book

\$5.00 At all bookstores or \$5.00

R. H. RUSSELL, Publisher, New York

BUY BOOKS AT

McBride's "The Wall St. Book Shop."

71 BROADWAY Telephone 1030 Cont.

BOOKS—All out-of-print books supplied, no matter on what subject; write me, stating books wanted. I can get any book ever published, when in England call and inspect my stock of 50,000 rare books. BAKER'S GREAT BOOKSHOP, John Bright St., Birmingham, England.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

OUR SPECIALTIES:

THE CELEBRATED INSTRUMENTS

BAY STATE GUITARS

BAY STATE BANJOS

BAY STATE MANDOLINS

BAY STATE ZITHERS

BAY STATE FLUTES

Guitars, From 3.00 to 75.00

Mandolins, From 3.00 to 75.00

Banjos, From 1.50 to 50.00

Flutes, From 1.00 to 75.00

Cornets, From 10.00 to 100.00

Clarinets, From 5.00 to 50.00

Violas, From 1.50 to 300.00

Music Boxes, From .75 to 350.00

Music Rolls, Piano Chairs

Music Stands, Piano Stools